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and patience of Cesare appear in higher relief in this book than ever before with the single exception of the very first biography of the whole long list, incorporated in Macchiavelli's famous disquisition on the *Prince*. The Florentine's idealized portrait is cast in lines which tally amazingly with the sober draughtsmanship of the most recent scholar. Some misconceptions with regard to Alexander VI. also receive correction, as for example, the common charge that the pope became the sultan's ally and accommodately murdered the Turkish Prince Djem for a lump sum. Alexander's firm policy in the face of the invasion of 1494 has never been set in a better light, and the contention is on the whole capably sustained that his political degradation did not begin until he resigned the reins into the hands of his masterful son. In the matter of the great enterprise in the Romagna the author sustains the rather incredible thesis that Cesare might have succeeded if he had built on Spain instead of France.

As every writer has the defect of his qualities it will not occur to any one to look to Mr. Woodward for brilliant writing. His book, like good English beef, can be assimilated only by the aid of vigorous mastication. It includes an appendix of documents printed, most of them, for the first time and offers a bibliography which is a model of its kind. A sketch-plan of the old basilica of St. Peter together with the palace of the Vatican forms a valuable illustrative feature.

FERDINAND SCHEVILL.

*The Reign of Henry VII. from Contemporary Sources.* By A. F. POLLARD, M.A., Hon. Litt.D., Professor of English History, University of London. [University of London Historical Series, no. I.] In three volumes. (London, New York, Bombay, and Calcutta: Longmans, Green, and Company. 1913-1914. Pp. lxx, 332; 348; 344.)

WITH this work Professor Pollard makes a new departure in the method of publishing sources. His purpose is to collect within convenient compass a series of contemporary documents sufficient to give a fairly comprehensive view of Henry VII.'s reign; and he has in mind chiefly the needs of the undergraduate student (pp. v, vi). The result is a happy medium between the so-called source-books, which are too fragmentary, and the large collections of original materials, which are for the most part too great in bulk and unsystematic in arrangement for intelligent exploration by the average undergraduate; if indeed they be available for his use. The advantages of this system should appeal strongly to teachers who have experienced the difficulties of bringing undergraduate students into profitable contact with sources.

The extracts represent the most varied types of contemporary literature; a ballad finds place beside the minutes of the council of the city

of York, an inscription on a tomb beside a chronicler's narrative. Most of them, however, are taken from the standard historical collections such as those published under the direction of the Master of the Rolls and by the Camden and Selden societies, the *Paston Letters*, the *Rotuli Parliamentorum*, and Wilkins's *Concilia*. Ten of the selections are derived from manuscripts. One from the York House Books (vol. I., no. 33) is a letter from the Earl of Lincoln desiring aid from the city of York in behalf of Lambert Simnel styled Edward VI.; three more from the same source (vol. II., nos. 94, 95, 97) illustrate the working of local government, and a fifth (vol. III., no. 60) a conflict between municipal and ecclesiastical authorities. Two documents found in the Chancery Files at the Public Record Office (vol. III., nos. 48, 72) display the method employed to invoke the aid of the secular arm, while the Episcopal Registers of London supply an account of a case of heresy (vol. III., no. 83). The proclamation of Perkin Warbeck issued in July of 1497 (vol. I., no. 108) is printed from the Birch MSS. in the British Museum, and the confirmation by Henry IV. of Richard II.'s legitimization of the Beauforts (vol. II., no. 5), which contains the interpolated phrase "excepta dignitate regali" incorporated in the text, is extracted from the Patent Rolls.

Professor Pollard has very properly confined his editorial duties chiefly to the selection and arrangement of extracts. Printed texts have been accepted by him usually without collation, though he has frequently suggested emendations of the texts, corrections of dates, and identifications of persons. This last important part of the editorial function has been performed in a highly satisfactory manner. The reader of these volumes may feel confident that the documents placed before him have been chosen from the large mass of available material not only with scholarly judgment of their value but also with keen appreciation of their human interest. Their arrangement moreover is admirable. It enables the reader to pick out illustrative material on any aspect of Henry's reign or to secure a fairly connected view of the whole period. Certain minor editorial duties, however, appear to have been somewhat neglected. A partial comparison of the extracts in these volumes with the original texts reveals a large number of slight variations. Most of them occur in the English documents which are "reprinted in the spelling of the editions from which they are taken" (p. xii). The reviewer is disposed to question the advisability of retaining this antiquated spelling in a work intended for such a circle of readers, but if it is to be preserved, certainly the typographical work should be watched with exceptional care. Many of these deviations are of small moment to the historical student, who will not be misled by the variation of "seid" for said (II. 88), "earl" for erle (I. 11), "sarjent" for serjant (I. 64), and others similar; some are apparently Professor Pollard's unindicated emendations, such as "bastarddis" for hastarddis (I. 73), "treasons" for reasons (I. 109), and "mervelously" for memvelously (II. 5); but

some change or obscure the sense of the original, *e. g.*, "faine" for laine (I. 13); "reteine" for receive (I. 26); "punysh" for peuysh (I. 191); "toward" for to warde (I. 313); "order" for oder (II. 140); "Richard undermayour" for "Richard Unde mayour" (II. 185); "willpacker" for wull packer (II. 278). Occasional lapses are evident also in the citation of titles. Davies's *Extracts from the Municipal Records of the City of York* is concealed as Davis's *York Records* (I. 9); in two instances reference is made by page only to a work of several volumes; and sometimes—though unfrequently—titles are so abbreviated as to be obscure. Others than undergraduates might waste time before locating a reference to *Letters and Papers* only (I. 1).

By no means least in value is the survey of the reign given in the introduction to the first volume. This is a masterly sketch which catches the spirit of the reign in a stimulating and suggestive fashion worthy of Professor Pollard's brilliant pen. The section on Constitutional Aspects of the Reign contains the best account of the organization of Parliament in Henry VII.'s reign known to the reviewer.

W. E. LUNT.

*Un Ami de Machiavel, François Vettori: sa Vie et ses Oeuvres.*

Par M. LOUIS PASSY. In two volumes. (Paris: Plon-Nourrit et Cie. 1913. Pp. 474; 393.)

THE author of this book, a member of the Institute, has been long in the Chamber of Deputies of which his eighty-four years make him the *doyen*. During that long life spent in the public service and the practice of law, he has written several volumes of a character very different from the present work: *Mémoires et Notes pour servir à l'Histoire du Département de l'Eure*; *La Forêt de Lyons: Histoire Administrative*, etc. But the writing of this work is the accomplishment of a long-cherished plan. In 1856, when the author made his first voyage to Italy, his father put into his trunk a book containing two treatises of Francesco Vettori, suggesting that he should in his leisure moments translate them into French. He was led by this to look into the archives of Florence for other manuscripts of Vettori and for fifty-seven years has not ceased to be interested in the history of Florence and everything relating to his contemporaries Machiavelli and Guicciardini. The desire of youth, to write something on Vettori, has never been put into practice and never abandoned during a busy life and now, in the autumn of his days, M. Passy is able to carry out this dream of spring.

The work consists of two volumes. The second contains French translations of works of Vettori which have been published in the original elsewhere. For this volume M. Passy has had the help of M. Léon Dorez, who has translated these documents.

The first volume consists of a biography of Vettori based on pub-